CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE

BULLETIN

142 SPARKS STREET, OTTAWA

VOL. 2, NO. 11 NOVEMBER, 1956.

FILM SESSIONS AT SUMMER CAMP

By Michel Dubreuil

(In our September issue we reported on the children's film program in the Kootenays. This time we are pleased to present a report on programming for adolescents in the Montreal area)

For the second year in a row, the "Film Clubs Commission" of the "Federation of Diocesan Cinema Centres" organized summer camps to train members of film clubs. Coming from all parts of the Province of Quebec 86 girls attended the two sessions held at Contrecoeur while some 30 boys turned up at Saint-Paul de l'Ile-Aux-Noix. Most of these youngsters were directors of the 100 (one hundred) odd film clubs belonging to the Federation. They went to these camps, first and foremost, to acquire a better knowledge of cinema and also to improve their technique as leaders of film club discussions, so that they could be better equipped to carry out their work during the following school year.

Each session lasted six days and centred around these two subjects: the various types of motion-pictures and film club discussions. Thus, some forums were devoted to the analysis of ideological films, tragedies, dramas, comedies. Some students presented their own studies. Particular attention was given to instructional films, thanks to the co-operation of the National Film Board. Besides, a meeting was devoted to the remarkable productions of our fellow citizen Norman McLaren.

Several first-rate films were projected and discussed. Various methods of discussion were tried out and thoroughly examined, so that everyone could go back with a rich stock of both theoretic and practical knowledge of these techniques.

The few break periods were taken up with writing scenarios for which the knowledge previously acquired at meetings — concerning the various types of films — had to be put to use. One of these scenarios will likely be utilized for a film and a few others will appear in publications of the Federation.

Away from the city, on the shores of the St. Lawrence and on the bank of the Richelieu, in a high-spirited atmosphere where everybody was eager to co-operate, boys and girls gained a deeper insight into the fascinating mystery of cinema. Now these youngsters are back in school, and at the meetings of their clubs during the present school year, they will try to impart to others the knowledge they have acquired at these summer camps.

During the year, the 5000 odd students who belong to film clubs can also rely on the close co-operation of the Film Clubs Commission. In fact, the Commission will continue to publish its bulletin "Sequence", intended for film clubs, which is regularly received by the groups, guiding them in their work and providing the indespensable link between all members. Sessions will be held periodically for those in charge of film clubs, films of high quality will be circulated, plentiful material on films will be placed at the disposal of everyone.

Thus, gradually, the education of movie-viewers is making headway, thanks to the enthusiasm of youngsters, coupled with the admirable co-operation of their teachers in charge of cinema, and thanks also to the constant efforts of the Film Clubs Commission.

C.F.I. ANNUAL MEETING

"The financial situation is greatly improved and the future looks better" said James A. Cowan, President of the Canadian Film Institute, in introducing his report to members of the 20th Annual Meeting of C.F.I. in Toronto on October 24th. Mr. Cowan referred to the auditors' statement and other statistical data which indicated that costs of operation had gone down and revenue had increased while film bookings, film procurement and membership had each increased by about 12% during the year ended June 30th, 1956.

Reports to the membership included those of the Honorary Treasurer, the Executive Director, the Canadian Federation of Film Societies (a division of C.F.I.), and the Scientific Film Division. Mrs. Dorothy Burritt, in reporting for the film societies mentioned that there was an increase of fifteen during the year and that they now numbered 70. Reference was made to FOCUS, the proposed quarterly publication of the Federation. It is planned to issue two editions of FOCUS during the present year with the first edition to be issued in March 1957.

The following Board of Directors was elected..... James A. Cowan, Dr. J.R. Kidd, L.D. Headley, Carl B. French and W. Graff of Toronto.
Peter Cock, L.F. MacRae, Breen Melvin, Dr. Lloyd Hampson, and A.L. Hepworth of Ottawa.
L.W. Chatwin of Montreal, Gaudry Delisle of Quebec City, H.P. Brown of Edmonton, E.F. Holliday of Regina, and Sir Arthur Elton of London, England.

A guest of the Institute at the meeting, who was introduced by Dr. Kidd was Mr. J.S. Misra of the Department of Education of India.

An "Honorary Membership" classification was created. The purpose of this membership is to provide recognition for people who have given distinguished service to the C.F.I. or to the field which the C.F.I. serves. Nominations for such memberships will be made by the Board of Directors at annual or special meetings of the Institute.

A perrenial subject of discussion at meetings of the C.F.I. is the matter of a Canadian film archives. It was recommended by the meeting that the Institute undertake to act as a clearing house for those people across Canada who are interested in film archives and in keeping in touch with each other. The December issue of this Bulletin will contain a story on archives.

Twenty-five members attended the Annual Meeting.

NEW FILMS

The following films have recently been deposited with C.F.I. by the Department of National Health & Welfare for inclusion in the National Health Film Library or the Welfare Film Library.

CANCER IS A WORD 20 min. sd. colour	$3.00
CLASS FOR TOMMY, A 22 min. sd. b&w	2.00
CONSTRUCTING A TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD SYSTEM 14 min. sd. b&w	1.50
HARD BROUGHT UP 40 min. sd. b&w	3.00
HEAD OF THE HOUSE 40 min. sd. b&w	3.00
INVADER, The 37 min. sd. b&w	3.00
LET'S KEEP OUR TEETH 20 min. sd. colour	3.00
NONE ARE REFUSED 30 min. sd. colour	3.00
ONE SMALL CANDLE 23 min. sd. colour	3.00
OUTBREAK OF SALMONELLA INFECTION, An 14 min. sd. colour	2.50
PLACE TO LIVE, A 24 min. sd. b&w	2.50
PUMP TROUBLE 13½ min. sd. colour	2.50
WOMEN IN WHITE 14 min. sd. b&w	1.50
YOUR HEALTH: Disease & Its Control 10 min. sd. b&w	1.00
YOUR HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY 10 min. sd. b&w	1.00

FOURTH AMERICAN FILM ASSEMBLY

The fourth annual American Film Assembly, sponsored by the Film Council of America, is scheduled for April 22 to 26, 1957, at the Statler Hotel, New York City.

Feature of the American Film Assembly will be the Golden Reel Film Festival, a three day series of screenings in which nontheatrical producers will put forward the best of their current releases. Films shown at the Festival will be those selected by national prescreening committees for the April competition. Final judging will be done by qualified jurors on the basis of the extent to which the film accomplishes its stated purpose, with due consideration given to technical quality.

A Golden Reel Award will be presented to that film, in each category of the competition, that receives the highest rating from jury and prescreening committee. Silver Reel Certificates will be awarded to other outstanding films in the 23 categories. Deadline for entries in the 1957 Golden Reel Film Festival is January 22, 1957.

The Sound Slidefilm Conference and Competition will be held in conjunction with the assembly. Deadline for Sound Slidefilm entries is January 9, 1957.

Entry forms and further information are available from the Film Council of America, 600 Davis Street, Evanston, Illinois.

NOTICE

In a number of instances recently payment for films has been enclosed in the film can. To avoid loss, all payments should be mailed together with the Remittance Copy of C.F.I. Invoice. This will also ensure that credit is made to the right account.